

## STERILIZATION LAWS DIVIDE EXPERT OPINION

Prominent New York Physicians  
and Lawyers Not in Ac-  
cord on Subject.

### OPERATION IS EXPLAINED

Dr. Woods Hutchinson and Others Give It Approval, but  
Legal Men All Approach  
It Cautiously.

The publication in more detail of the test case brought against the sterilization law in the State of Washington and the probability that a similar case will be brought in this state to test the constitutionality of the New York sterilization law, passed last spring, has stimulated wide discussion of the merits and demerits of this sort of legislation.

Already seven states of the Union, Washington, California, Connecticut, Indiana, Iowa, New Jersey and New York, have decreed that under certain conditions habitual criminals, degenerates, idiots, imbeciles and insane persons shall be deprived of their power to beget children, on the ground that the growth of these classes in the population by inheritance is a distinct danger to society.

The New York law provides for the appointment of a commission which shall decide, after careful study of each individual case and of the patient's antecedents, what inmates of its prisons, reformatories and state and charitable institutions for the mentally defective shall be sterilized to prevent their procreation. In some of the states cited the laws provide sterilization as a punishment for rape. In others it is not prescribed as a punishment for any crime, but as a police measure by which society seeks to protect itself, like any law passed to preserve and promote public health and morals.

### Operation Quick and Painless.

The test case in Washington was brought in behalf of a man who had been convicted of statutory rape upon a child under ten years of age and sentenced to life imprisonment and to undergo an operation which should prevent procreation. The operation commonly performed in such cases is that of vasectomy. The question before the court was whether vasectomy constituted a "cruel and unusual" punishment forbidden by the constitution.

This operation of vasectomy is painlessly performed in a few minutes, the experts testified, under a local anesthetic, through a skin cut half an inch long and entailing no wound infection, no confinement to bed. It does not deprive the patient of his sexual power or desire and does not cause any change whatever in the sexual organs. The corresponding operation on the female is the removal of a small section of the Fallopian tube. In speaking of the operation on the male, one expert who testified in the Washington case described it as "less serious than the extraction of a tooth." Another expert said that he performed it without administering any anesthetic, that it consumed about three minutes and that the subject returned to work immediately.

The court, in view of these facts, held that it was not such a cruel punishment "as cannot be inflicted upon appellant for the horrible and brutal crime of which he has been convicted." The statute was held constitutional and the judgment affirmed.

### In Doubt as to Females.

"It is an operation very decidedly beneficial to society," said Dr. Hutchinson, "Not cruel at all what we call a minor operation. I am most emphatically in favor of a law providing sterilization by this means for hopelessly criminal and feeble-minded men. Something like six states have such a law in force to-day, and I think from six to ten more states will add it to their statute books this coming winter."

"Of course the inheritance of criminality or imbecility, which it is hoped may be checked by sterilization laws, is just as easy through the mother as through the father. But sterilization of the female is a major operation. Though not dangerous, it is somewhat graver than vasectomy, and in the majority of cases it will probably be found simpler merely to confine the criminal or imbecile female during her reproductive period of life rather than resort to a surgical operation. But the confinement of a man during the lifetime of his reproductive faculties is not by any means so simple a thing."

"Some of the states have laws calling for the sterilization of criminals only, but most of them are now extending these laws to apply to the feeble-minded classes as well. The operation of vasectomy is not in any sense a 'cruel punishment.' In the state reformatory in Indiana it has been performed on 500 criminals, 750 of whom gave their consent, most of them actually suggesting that it be done. You can see by this that it cannot be painful."

Dr. Hutchinson was asked if he thought sterilization would lead to immorality, because it removed some of the perilsous consequences of licentiousness. He replied in the negative.

"The feeble minded have no self-control in any case," he argued, "and consequences never deterred the criminal. The danger from sterilization in this direction is negligible compared with the great good it will do society."

"Furthermore, it presents a definite solution of the problem confronting those men or women who are neither criminal nor feeble minded, but who have inherited diseases which they are loath to hand down to future generations. It has hitherto been a choice with these people between giving up family life or bringing unfortunate children into the world. Vasectomy—voluntary, of course—will permit such couples to enjoy family life without running the risk of bringing misery to the next generation."

### Test Case in This State.

"There is no doubt a test case will be brought right away in this state, and some judge will be found to declare the law unconstitutional. Such is the fate of all really progressive laws."

It should be remarked in passing that Dr. Woods Hutchinson is a Bull Moose.

Dr. Arthur C. Brush, of Brooklyn, also upheld the advantages of vasectomy.

"From a purely sociological standpoint," said he, "the sterilization law is a very good one. Criminals of a degenerate type never can be reformed. Idiots, imbeciles and so on can only propagate their own kind. We should either banish them all to some desert island or prevent them from perpetuating their kind, to the increasing detriment of society. They are not only a great burden and expense to the public, but they contaminate the stock of normal human beings."

Take, for instance, that celebrated case of the upstate family containing 800 criminals, all the descendants of one woman. The operation is a very simple one. Indeed, it is a minor operation; no danger whatever attaches to it. It surely can't be considered cruel in the sense of the pain it inflicts."

These physicians who have familiarized themselves with the idea and performance of vasectomy for the most part favor it warmly. It is not so easy, however, to find lawyers who will without important qualification uphold the laws permitting it.

John Brooks Leavitt, chairman of the committee of the State Bar Association on the discharge of criminals, said of the New York law:

"Such an act must, in my judgment, stand. If at all, on the general police power of the Legislature. If sterilization must be viewed as a punishment, then this act is not a punishment, because it empowers a board to impose punishment upon a person who has not been convicted of a crime. This is not within the power of the Legislature."

"The theory of the act is, however, not that sterilization is a punishment, but that it is merely a measure for the public weal. There is, however, the constitutional provision that cruel and unusual punishments shall not be inflicted. The Legislature has no right to inflict cruel and unusual punishment on any person, whether convicted of crime or not. Thus we have two questions: (1) Must vasectomy be viewed as a punishment? (2) If so, is it both cruel and unusual?"

### History of Jukes Family.

"My answer to the first question would be that it would not fall within the definition of 'punishment.' It does not purport to be a punishment, but merely an act to protect society against an admitted evil, to wit, the transmission to descendants of inherited tendencies which, having been found detrimental to society in the ancestor, are reasonably certain to be equally injurious to society in the descendants, and an injury in an ever widening circle (as, for example, the Jukes family). The injury to society inflicted by the descendants of such families as the Jukes is probably far greater than any benefit which the world has ever had from its Julius Cæsars, its Napoleons, its Shakespeares, or, as some people may think, its T. R.'s."

The Jukes family, to which Mr. Leavitt had reference, has been carefully traced through five generations by Dukaide. Of 200 members of this family, 76 were convicted of crime, 180 were paupers and beggars and over one-half the females were prostitutes.

"But the Legislature, under the guise of a measure for the public good," continued Mr. Leavitt, "cannot inflict even a punishment for crime which is both cruel and unusual. Let it be noted that the constitutional inhibition is not against cruel punishments and unusual punishments. To be unconstitutional punishment must be both cruel and unusual. What can be more cruel than to hang or electrocute a man? Execution, for murder, having been usual for many centuries, it is not unconstitutional. On the other hand, as civilization advances in experience there may be unusual punishments which, however expedient, can be prescribed if they are not cruel."

"Now, as the medical men assure us that vasectomy is entirely painless, it is obvious that, however unusual, it cannot be called cruel, unless it is cruelty to impose upon a man the consciousness throughout his life that he can never have any children. This is a psychological question which should be determined by experts in psychology before it can be passed on in courts of law."

### Psychological Question Involved.

"As a psychological question it might have to be decided by experience, by a careful study of the results of the operation in individual cases. Until it is found by such an examination, carried on during a course of years, that a consciousness of inability to beget children operates upon the health or character of a person in a detrimental way, a court of law might well hesitate to decide that it is not cruel. Thus, such a law might at present be held to be unconstitutional for the reason suggested, whereas in a few years, and as the result of an investigation that no such detrimental results follow from such an operation, it could then be upheld as entirely within the constitutional powers of the Legislature."

Charles A. Boston, who is a member of the committee of the State Bar Association, of which Mr. Leavitt is chairman, though he did not care to discuss the merits of the New York law because of its unfamiliarity with its provisions, attacked all legislation of the kind as unwelcome, if not unconstitutional. Not so long ago, Mr. Boston told the American Society of Sanitary and Moral Prophylaxis what he thought of the sterilization laws on the statute books of the different states, those antedating the enactment of the New York measure. He expressed the opinion again last night that such of these laws as were penal—that is, those which prescribed sterilization as a punishment for a crime—were undoubtedly unconstitutional, and that those laws which did not prescribe it as a punishment, but as a measure for the pretended good of society, though probably constitutional, were unwise.

The penal laws he considered unconstitutional, because sterilization he considered a "cruel and unusual" punishment within the meaning of the constitutional prohibition. The other sterilization laws he considered unwise, because in enacting them the legislatures took for granted what biology had failed yet to determine, namely, that criminal tendencies were transmitted from father to son.

### Inheritance or Environment.

He was convinced himself, he said, that crime was not the result of inheritance but of environment, and when it came to a question of mental defectiveness he thought it highly probable that a tendency toward delusions could be inherited. The only safe sterilization law, to his mind, would be one restricted to congenital idiots, and these, he pointed out, had such few opportunities to procreate that such a law was unnecessary.

The most dangerous of the laws now in force which might be considered constitutional, Mr. Boston thought, was the Indiana law. It left the determination of who should be sterilized, he said, to the board of managers, warden and attending physician of a prison, for instance, the physician being the one to perform the operations, at \$5 each.

"What an instrument in the hands of ignorant or unscrupulous persons!" said he. "Suppose the collateral relatives of a rich man should wish to prevent his having lineal descendants to whom to leave his money. They might trump up a charge of insanity against him and have him committed to an asylum. It has been done before. Once there, it would not be hard for the authorities to deprive him of his power of procreation. This is merely a sample of the abuse of such a law made possible by the absence of proper safeguards."

"On the other hand, a law like the New Jersey law, which provides for the most careful examination into the history of every individual case by experts before the performance of the operation, is practically useless. The safeguards surrounding it render it inoperative."

## NATIONAL GUARD POSSIBILITIES.

BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHN G. EDDY. COLONEL DANIEL APPLETON.



for the performance of the operation, is practically useless. The safeguards surrounding it render it inoperative."

Henry Wellman, of Wellman & Wellman, when the test case in the State of Washington had been brought to his attention, outlined an argument which will appeal to a great many other lawyers.

"Here's the real point, to my mind," said he. "It is not whether the operation is painful, but whether the effect of it must be considered a 'cruel and unusual punishment,' in the constitutional meaning of the term. It is surely 'unusual,' and it deprives a man of one of his vital powers."

"But if the court can say to a man who has done murder, 'We will take your life for punishment,' it certainly seems to me that it can also say to him that it will take part of his life for punishment, so long as such punishment fits the crime he has committed."

### HEAD WAITER DISMISSED

Demand for Increase Follows,  
Then Walk-Out—Penitent  
Ones Taken Back.

Twenty-six waiters, including the head waiter, in Pabst's Van Cortlandt Hotel, at 242d street and Broadway, The Bronx, struck last yesterday afternoon, while the main dining room, which seats twelve hundred people, was crowded.

William Arras, Jr., manager of the hotel, was in the kitchen when one of the diners told him all the waiters had walked out.

He hurried to the dining room, and taking in the situation at a glance, hastily recruited five girls from the soda fountain, seven porters and ten hostlers, whom he pressed into service. A number of automobile parties, who were in the dining room, offered the services of their chauffeurs, which he gratefully accepted. Men patrons volunteered their services, and in a short time everything was running smoothly. The guests seemingly enjoyed the situation, taking the delays good-naturedly.

In explaining the cause of the strike, Mr. Arras said the head waiter, Frederick Meyer, had not measured up to his standard, and that on Saturday he was informed that his services would not be required after last night.

A short time later, the manager said, he was approached by several of the waiters, who demanded 10 per cent increase in wages. Mr. Arras said he paid no attention to them, and he presumed that some one had put the idea into the waiters' heads to strike, thinking to put him at a disadvantage.

After the waiters had left the dining room they held a meeting outside the hotel to discuss their affairs. While they were engaged in their discussion, the men were ordered to disperse. The men demurred at first, but when they threatened to send for the reserves and arrest them all they moved away. Later, four of the waiters returned and asked Mr. Arras to be allowed to go to work. After a few words of advice he allowed them to return.

In speaking of the affair later Mr. Arras said he did not expect any trouble from the men and had not communicated with the police. He said he expected most of the men would ask for their jobs back, and as he did not blame them, but their leaders, he would put them to work again.

The hotel is one of the largest in The Bronx and is a great resort for the golfers from Van Cortlandt Park, a number of whom were in the dining room when the waiters walked out.

### SERVICES IN NEW CHURCH

Broadway Presbyterians to  
Have Vested Choir of Boys.

The new Broadway Presbyterian Church, at 14th street, of which the Rev. Dr. Walter E. Buchanan is the pastor, was used for public services for the first time yesterday. One of the striking features of the new church is the stalls for a vested choir of boys, an innovation in Presbyterian churches in this country. The church proper has a seating capacity of 1,100, and there is a spacious auditorium on the lower floor, a gymnasium, bowling alley, a kitchen and a drill room. The church will be dedicated soon.

The present church grew from the old Fourth Avenue Presbyterian, which was at 22d street. That church was sold several years ago for \$200,000. The new building cost about \$400,000. North of the church a business building has been built, the income of which is to be devoted to the endowment of the church.

### YELLOWSTONE PARK LECTURE.

Dwight Elmendorf took a delighted Carnegie Hall audience through Yellowstone Park last night, and will guide them on the same journey this afternoon. He spent his seventh summer in the park this year, and his camera, brushes and colors, with a motion picture camera, well equipped him for the lecture.

### WAITERS SOON REPLACED

Chauffeurs and Men Patrons  
Volunteer for the Jobs.

### BRYCE RESIGNS AS BRITISH AMBASSADOR

Continued from first page.

In Constantinople. He was Chargé d'Affaires at Teheran in 1906, and was first secretary to the Embassy at St. Petersburg in 1907-08.

### BRYCE NOTED AS AUTHOR

Ambassador's Books as Widely  
Known as His State Work.

James Bryce, since his appointment to succeed Sir Henry Mortimer Durand, has been one of the most conspicuous figures in the diplomatic life of Washington.

As a man of letters Mr. Bryce is a world figure. As such he is best known to readers in the United States as the author of "The American Commonwealth"—a deep, yet sprightly, commentary on America, her people and her institutions. This work appeared in 1888, and it is said that in accurate knowledge of its theme he is approached only by De Tocqueville and Goldwin Smith.

"The Holy Roman Empire" was published in 1892, the author then being twenty-four years old. This work, used in colleges and universities the world over, reflects Mr. Bryce's remarkable capacity for research and his philosophical vision.

Other works by Mr. Bryce are: "The Flora and Fauna of Arran" (1890), "Transcaucasia and Arrarat" (1891), "Impressions of South Africa" (1897), "Studies in Jurisprudence" (1900) and "Studies in Contemporary Biography" (1900).

Mr. Bryce was born in Belfast on May 16, 1858. He was graduated from Oxford in 1882 as an honor man, and for fifteen years practiced law in London. In 1890 he took his seat in the House of Commons. Since 1892 he has pursued the career of a publicist and litterateur.

In twenty-six years of parliamentary life he had served as Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (1896), as Chancellor for the Duchy of Lancaster (1899) and as president of the Board of Trade in the Rosebery government of 1894. He resigned the Chief Secretaryship for Ireland, which he had held for thirteen months in the Campbell-Bannerman ministry, to become ambassador to the United States.

Mr. Bryce is a man of profound learning and holds honorary degrees from many institutions. He has been called "the most versatile living Englishman," which, as one biographer says, "would be quite true had he not been born in Ireland; son of a Scotch father and Irish mother, and educated in Glasgow, whence he went to Oxford."

As a member of the Cabinet in 1892, Mr. Bryce took a large part in framing the second Home Rule Bill.

Mr. Bryce's appointment as the British Ambassador to Washington attracted widespread attention at the time it was made. His selection was due largely to the desire to send to this country one of England's foremost public men. Among the others mentioned at the time were Lord Bessborough and several of those most prominent in British public life. Ambassador Bryce was regarded as specially fitted for carrying forward the era of good feeling between the two countries and for bringing to a culmination the desire on both sides of the water for a treaty of arbitration which would take the place of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty left unratified by the Senate.

Mr. Bryce went to Washington under most favorable conditions. He received a cordial farewell in London from the Pilgrim Society, made up of many prominent Americans and leaders in British public life, and was similarly welcomed on his arrival at New York by the American branch of the Pilgrim Society. In Washington he at once took active part in diplomatic work, and at the same time time to continue his literary labors.

Mr. Bryce said at the time to a friend: "I am particularly glad to come back to America in order to continue my observation of American public affairs and to round out the conclusions stated in my earlier work." This resulted in his writing extended additions to "The American Commonwealth," which have been published since he came to this country.

## VERBECK LETTER STIRS NATIONAL GUARDSMEN

Asks Colonels to Indicate by  
Mail Preference for Successors  
to Himself and O'Ryan.

### DIX WANTS INFORMATION

Officers Declare Action Is Most  
Unusual and Governor Should  
Have Asked Opinions at  
Conference in Albany.

A departure in the present National Guard mix-up has been taken by Brigadier General William Verbeck, the adjutant general, chief of staff of the New York National Guard, in sending a personal communication to different commanding officers, asking them to write him their preference for appointment as the successor of Major General John F. O'Ryan, recently rendered supernumerary by Governor Dix.

Such a communication, it is declared, has never before been sent out by any adjutant general, and the greatest surprise is expressed by officers. The opinion is also expressed that Governor Dix has made another military blunder in authorizing the sending out of such a letter.

General Verbeck asks officers if they favor Brigadier General Samuel M. Welch, of Buffalo, commanding the 4th Brigade, for the office of the adjutant general, chief of staff. He also asks officers to let him know whether they prefer Brigadier General John G. Eddy, commanding the 2d Brigade of Brooklyn, or Colonel Daniel Appleton, commanding the 7th Infantry of Manhattan, for the office of major general commanding. General Verbeck further states in his letter that Governor Dix desires the information he has asked. There is a common opinion that General Verbeck will hand in his resignation in a few days.

### Action of Dix Called Snub.

In speaking of the letter in question an officer said: "If Governor Dix desired to know the sentiment of the commanding officers of the National Guard, why did he not treat us with common courtesy, and ask those questions of us himself when we went to Albany on November 1, as we supposed to confer with him personally on these and other grave subjects? The action of Governor Dix at that time was nothing more than a direct snub to officers who have given the best part of their lives to service in the National Guard."

Another officer said: "I do not know what the National Guard is coming to under the present administration of affairs. It is bad enough that the National Guard should be without knowledge for some sixteen days as to whether it is a division, whether it actually exists or what it is, as no order has been received to date re-establishing it since the Governor disbanded the division on October 25. The letter is little short of an insult, in my opinion, under the circumstances, and I have met other officers who have the same opinion. The letter places officers in a very embarrassing position."

Still another said: "No officer should send an answer to General Verbeck's letter until a meeting of officers is held in each brigade, and the matter discussed. If General McCoskey Butt were in active command there would be something doing, and no mistake, even if he had to go to Albany and lose his commission in seeking the right. The National Guard seems to be in the power of a few paid officers, who are simply turning it upside down."

### Confusion Hurts Guard.

A particularly well known officer had this to say: "In common courtesy to Governor-elect Sullivan, why does not Governor Dix refrain from making further changes in officers? Surely Governor Dix has countenanced enough confusion in the National Guard without making matters worse. Is he utterly devoid of judgment of his own that he seems to be so easily led into fathoming all kind of schemes hurtful to the National Guard? The present situation of affairs is incomprehensible and an injustice to the National Guard."

It is believed that replies will be sent by some officers who are always more or less anxious to get in out of the rain. Some officers are not particularly favorable to General Welch. He is a lawyer by profession, and joined the National Guard as first lieutenant in Company I of the 65th Regiment, of Buffalo, May 26, 1879. He became brigadier general, 4th Brigade, on June 16, 1911. During the war with Spain he was in the service of the United States as colonel of the 65th New York Volunteers from May 1, 1898, to November 19, 1898. General Welch holds the brevet rank of major general for meritorious service of more than twenty-five years. He is the third senior brigade commander.

Brigadier General John G. Eddy is the senior brigade commander in the state, and received the brevet rank of major general in 1908 for meritorious service of more than twenty-five years. Colonel Appleton, the senior colonel in the state, is a member of the firm of D. Appleton & Co., book publishers. He joined the 7th as a private in Company F on October 31, 1871, and has served continuously ever since, performing all duty upon which the 7th was ordered.

Several officers expressed the opinion that it was an excellent idea to get the opinion of commanding officers as to who could best be appointed to fill the high places of major general and adjutant general, but that it should be done in a different manner than that proposed by General Verbeck.

## TO KEEP ALL, SAYS PUPIN Columbia Professor Looks for No Interference.

Professor Michael I. Pupin, of Columbia University, who is a native of Serbia and president of the Slavonic Immigration Society, spoke last night before the Public Forum of the Church of the Ascension, 20th street and Fifth avenue, on "The Balkan Revolution."

He said he believed the Balkan allies would be allowed to keep the territory they had conquered except Constantinople, Salonica and the Dardanelles; that the Turks would be shorn of power, and thus relieve Europe of one of its most troublesome problems, and that Serbia would secure a seaport on the Adriatic coast.

He denounced as outrageous the attitude of Austria toward the Serbian demand for a seaport, saying Austria was ungrateful, as she owed her political existence to Serbia. Austria, he said, would never dare to make war on Serbia without the help of Germany, and Germany, he was sure, would not engage in any such adventure. He thought there would be a speedy and peaceable adjustment of differences and that the world would be the better off because of the Balkan revolution.

The speaker said the fight was not for territorial conquest, nor for the aggrandizement of the countries against Turkey, but was a protest of the people of the Balkan States against five hundred years of oppression on the part of the Turks.

The Turks had continued to oppress the non-Mahometan portion of the population of its provinces, although the European powers had promised them certain inalienable rights, said the speaker, and the Servians and Bulgarians and Greeks had been waiting the opportunity when they could take up arms and fight for the rights of their brethren.

### \$10,000 IN RELIEF FUND

Cleveland H. Dodge to Send  
That Amount To-day.

Cleveland H. Dodge, president of the board of trustees of Robert College, in Constantinople, said last night that he would send \$10,000 by cable to-day for relief work in the Near East. Mr. Dodge said that sum had already been collected, but he hoped to be able to send \$15,000. He did not name the contributors.

On Saturday Mr. Dodge received a cable message from the Rev. Dr. Charles F. Gates, president of Robert College, which said:

"Wounded many. Red Cross sorely needs funds. In a cable dispatch to Dr. Gates, Mr. Dodge told him to use the college credit, if necessary, and asked Dr. Gates to inform him by cable fully of the conditions of missions and colleges in Constantinople."

Up to last night Mr. Dodge had received no reply. "I shall probably hear from Dr. Gates to-morrow," he declared. "They are no doubt so busy in Constantinople that they have not had time to send an answer. I do not believe they are as worried over the prospects of the fall of that city as some of us here are."

Mr. Dodge holds the same opinion about the natural protection of Robert College from its situation as is held by Professor Alfred D. F. Hamlin, of Columbia University, who has had charge of the enlargement plans of the institution. "The college is as well protected by a strong, high wall," said Mr. Dodge. "If the Bulgarians take Constantinople there will be nothing to fear from them. General Dimitri, the second in command in the Bulgarian army, was graduated from Robert College."

Should rioting take place in Constantinople, Mr. Dodge said, he believed Europeans or Americans would not be neglected.

### AIDS TURKISH RELIEF WORK

Oscar Straus Receives Appeal from  
the Grand Vizier.

Oscar Straus, who is directing a movement among the American missionary societies to raise funds for relief work in Turkey, received a cable message yesterday from Kiamil Pacha, Grand Vizier of Turkey, urging him to do what he could to alleviate conditions.

Kiamil Pacha held his present office when Mr. Straus first went to Turkey as American minister.

Mr. Straus pointed out yesterday that the missionary societies by contributing money for relief work would contribute to the welfare of the people of the country, and might thereby avert the dangers which threaten the Christians in the event of a holy war breaking out.

### AID FOR STARVING JEWS

Planned to Use \$80,000 Left from the  
Kishineff Fund.

Delegates of the Federation of Oriental Jews of America met in the Chrystie Street Recreation Hall yesterday afternoon and discussed means of aiding the hundreds of thousands of starving and sick Jews throughout the Balkans and in Turkey. They decided to call a general conference of the federation and its allied organizations to meet at the Educational Alliance, East Broadway and Jefferson street, at 7:30 p. m. on Sunday, November 24.

It will then be suggested that Jacob Schiff, who was secretary of the Kishineff massacre fund, use the \$80,000 remaining from that fund for the relief of the Jews at this time.

### WOMEN MAKE APPEAL FOR BALKAN RED CROSS

Wife of Russian Ambassador  
in Washington Tells of Greece  
and Bulgaria's Need.

President Appealed To  
Wife of Serbian Minister in  
London, Herself an American,  
Tells of Suffering and Un-  
necessary Deaths.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Nov. 10.—Two distinguished women, Mme. Bakmeteff, wife of the Russian Ambassador here, and Mme. Slavka Grouitch, wife of the Serbian Minister in London, but an American by birth, have written letters to President Taft in the interest of the general appeal of the American Red Cross for funds to aid the sufferers in the Balkan States.

Mme. Bakmeteff spent many years in Greece and Bulgaria, and has been appointed to the Red Cross societies of those countries. Her letter is as follows:

November 6, 1912.

To His Excellency, President Taft, President American Red Cross, Washington.

Dear Mr. President: In addition to the general appeal to the American people which you are sending out to alleviate the sufferings caused by the war in the Balkans, I should like to state that I have received a cable dispatch from the American Red Cross, saying that the need is great and increasing, and asking me to send directly to her all the aid I can. I am, therefore, sending you this letter, and I also represent the Bulgarian Red Cross, and am informed from there that conditions are equally terrible and that the need of assistance is most urgent.

The rigorous Balkan winter is closing in upon the poor, unprepared people, and thousands of sick and wounded may die of a little help. Hospital supplies, clothing and many other things are greatly needed.

I have lived many years both in Greece and in Bulgaria and have assisted at many scenes of hardship and suffering, and know by experience that the suffering there cannot be exaggerated and demand a quick answer, and I devoutly pray that they find an echo in all Christian hearts. Any contributions that may be sent to me I will forward directly to their destination through the American Red Cross with the names of the charitable contributors, who can designate, if they wish, the country they want to assist, whether it be Greece or Bulgaria.

Yours most sincerely,

(Signed) MARIE BAKMETEFF.

Mme. Grouitch was a student in archaeology at Athens and Constantinople before her marriage